

Achieving Sustainable Prosperity

18th Annual Rural Development Conference

April 10-11, 2013

Cookeville, Tennessee

[Click here for Agenda & Hotel Information](#)

Click Here to Register

For questions about the conference, contact USDA Rural Development
615-783-1300 or ra.tnrddirector@tn.usda.gov

Featuring
(click names for more info)



Dr. Jared Bingham
TN Rural Education Assoc.



Mimi Bliss
Bliss Communications



Lt. Gen. (Ret.) John Castellaw
Crockett Policy Institute



Ed McMahon
Urban Land Institute



Deborah Slaton-Temple
alt. Consulting



Dr. Robert Smith
Corporate Consultant



Timothy Tidwell
Tennessee Valley Authority



Sharon Yeago
Farmers Market Coalition

Workshops include

- Secrets of Successful Communities
- The Keys to Sustainable Tourism
- The Role of News Media in Economic Development
- Sharpening Your Leadership Contributions
- Making My Leadership Sustainable
- Bridging the Gap Between Business and Students
- Keeping it Local
Providing Businesses With the Right Tools to Grow
- Community Preparedness and Industrial Site Selection
How Has the Industrial Site Selection Model Changed
- Sustainable Energy and National Security
Promoting Job Growth in the Sustainable Energy Sector
- Secrets of Successful Networking:
Collect Business Opportunities, Not Business Cards



Barb Neligan
Motivational Humorist
Luncheon Speaker



Committed to the future of rural communities.



What local leaders say about the conference:

“The plenary and lunch speakers were comparable to any national conference I have attended, and **exceeded most of them.**”

“Outstanding conference... Always worth the time spent, excellent speakers and **truly relevant workshops!**”

“**The networking is great,** and I appreciate all that Rural Development does to help the communities. Please keep it up.”

“**Better and better.** I have been coming to this conference for the past six years and all have been good, but this one sticks out as the best.”

“Hard to single out one workshop as the best...all the sessions I attended were **just outstanding.**”